



IFW

SN-US035198

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
Shuichi HIRAYAMA : Patent Art Unit: 3728  
Serial No.: 10/758,591 :  
Filed: January 16, 2004 :  
For: BOOT LINER :

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH CERTIFICATION**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached PTO 1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents and the June 2, 2004 European Search Report are attached.

I hereby certify that each item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

*No fee is believed to be required in view of the above certification.* However, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to charge payment of the Petition fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) *if required* and any other fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

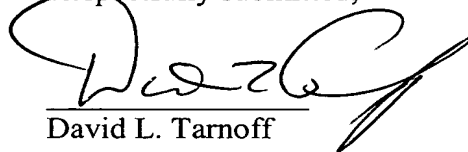
European Patent Publication No. 1 308 104 appears to disclose an inner boot with a lacing arrangement having a lace 4 passing through loops (5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 17) of straps. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand this publication.

French Patent Publication No. 2 834 182 appears to disclose a boot having a lacing arrangement with a plurality of straps 22 interconnected by a lace 23.

\* \* \*

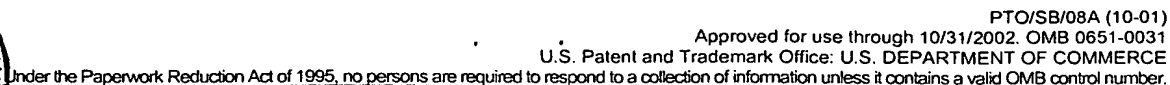
Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Tarnoff  
Reg. No. 32,383

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP  
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202)-293-0444  
Dated: 7-2-04



# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/758,591
Filing Date	January 16, 2004
First Named Inventor	Shuichi HIRAYAMA
Group Art Unit	3728
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	SN-US035198

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.